

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116
U.S. Appln. No. 09/929,286

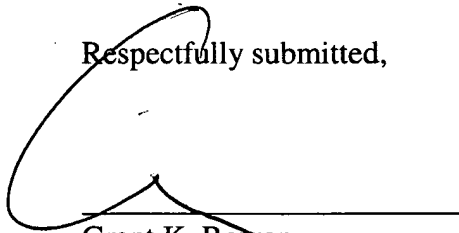
REMARKS

Claims 1-6 and 17 have been examined. Claim 17 has been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a), and claims 1-6 have been allowed. Applicants have canceled claim 17 without prejudice or disclaimer.

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,



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CUSTOMER NUMBER

Date: December 22, 2004